

## The Washington Times

Published Evening and Sunday at  
THE MUNSEY BUILDING,  
Penn. Ave., between 12th and 14th Sts.  
New York Office: 175 Fifth Ave.  
Chicago Office: 422 Marquette Building  
Boston Office: 100 Journal Building  
Daily, one year, \$3.00  
Sunday, one year, \$2.50

FRANK A. MUNSEY.

The Times is served in the city of Washington and District of Columbia by newboys, who deliver and collect for the paper on their own account at the rate of 6 cents a week for the Evening and 5 cents a copy for the Sunday edition.  
Entered at the postoffice at Washington, D. C., as second class matter.

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FRIDAY, JUNE 28, 1907.

### The Steel Rails.

Time was when the Carnegie Steel Company, long before the days of the trust, threatened to build its own railroad from the head of the Ohio to Atlantic tidewater unless the Pennsylvania railroad should make certain concessions that had been demanded. The great Pennsylvania rather abjectly surrendered, because it was in no condition to fight the steel king.

Today there is prospect of a sharp disagreement between the Steel trust and the railroads, with the advantage seemingly on the other side. A big conference of steel men and railroad executives in New York yesterday discussed the quality of steel rails of late, with a view of securing reforms that would provide a rail strong and reliable enough to meet the needs of modern traffic. This followed the recent ultimatum of the Pennsylvania that it would make its own rails unless it could get better ones from the trust at a fair price. The meeting was entirely friendly, of course. But the more of such friendliness the American business world experiences just now the nearer we shall be to the benefits of a valuable, even though antiquated, competition.

### The Grateful Lioness.

John Burroughs—venerable, erudite, nature-loving—suffered something of an injustice in these columns several days since. His ability to poke holes into rabbit and bear romance was illustrated so forcefully that our readers may well have concluded he could not cut a figure in the same field himself.

Fortunately the New York Sun comes to his rescue. A writer self-styled "In Vino Veritas"—no nature-faking there—puts Mr. Burroughs in the running with this:

After all, John Burroughs' story is the best, and as I saw it in the Sun, it is true. A lieutenant in Africa was hunting for big game. He was fearless, but for some reason he resented to shoot at the great lioness that approached. Nearer and nearer she came and was limping. The big-hearted soldier took out his horn that he saw was in her foot and she limped away gratefully. And the Britisher forgot the lioness.

Not so with her ladyship. She returned the next night, looked over the roster of the regiment and ate every officer that ranked the lieutenant, who, of course, by her act of gratitude was made a colonel.

Now this story has two distinct advantages over certain others lately put in print: Mr. Burroughs' heroine did not need a course in evolution to get to the point, and maybe the author did not really intend his readers to believe him.

### Signs of Slowing Down?

There can be no denial of the statement that the politico-economic conservatives have been finding considerable causes for satisfaction in some recent developments. Note this catalogue:

Pennsylvania Democrats have declined to endorse Bryan.

Senator Knox has squarely made an issue with the President, standing for more literal acceptance of the Constitution.

The Wisconsin State senate, dominated by LaFollette men, has overwhelmingly defeated a two-cent-fare measure.

Governor Hughes vetoed a two-cent-fare bill in New York.

All these things are significant; certainly interesting. But they are no more conclusive. They suggest some things, but they prove nothing as to general tendencies of the public mind.

It may be conceded that business interests are disposed to some measure of new caution, incident, not to any slackening of business, for that does not appear to have taken place, but to a condition of what may be called brain fog. Folks have been thinking and talking progressive and constructive policies so long that some of them have a bit wearied. Then the stock market cramp served to give excuse for changing the subject, and some of them have undertaken to do so.

But the great masses of people are not much disposed to slow down. There is with them a growing feeling that only a beginning has been effected in the execution of the progressive program, and they have small disposition to have things

wait for four or eight years. That is the explanation, for the larger part, of the persistent demand for another term of President Roosevelt. The country knows about what he would try to do if he got the chance, and knows that he would try with more skill and vigor than anybody else in sight. So they are for him, which doesn't suggest that the slowing-down process is gaining much headway.

### A Skeleton Police Force.

Every police precinct in the District of Columbia is short of men save one. Moreover, not enough men to fill the vacancies with the brains and strength required of policemen have applied to take the examinations. Finally, if every vacancy in the force were to be filled tomorrow the District would still be inadequately patrolled.

A special report to the Commissioners from the Superintendent of Police emphasizes this dangerous situation. There is no exaggeration in the use of that word "dangerous." Any community of 300,000 persons, spread over ten square miles of territory, relying in the daytime on less than 100 patrolmen, may well regard its position as dangerous.

What shall be done? Congress has raised the pay of policemen and given them special advantages in annual increases and opportunity for promotion. The examinations are simple, practical, necessary—attaching the greater importance to reasonable physical tests and keeping the intellectual tests down to the lowest practical level.

The expectation is that this phase of the evil will solve itself. As the demand for workmen lessens, toward late summer, the number of applicants will increase. Before fall it is thought the department will be able to fill all the gaps in the force as now organized. Meanwhile there ought to be no surprise that able-bodied men do not enlist for \$75 a month, work seven days in the week, and pay \$75 for uniforms and equipment, when they can earn from \$90 to \$120 a month as workmen.

But the need for more men will still exist. One would think Senators and Representatives who own property in the District would see it, but they do not. They go right along permitting 200 men of a command of 638 to be withdrawn for special details so that for all the streets and highways of that territory over which "Congress has exclusive jurisdiction" there are less than 100 policemen available for day patrol duty. Fully 100 men more should have been provided five years ago. The people of the District should see that they are not wanting after the next session of their municipal councils.

Our esteemed contemporary, the New York Times, explains with much lucidity that the thunder storm which marks the end of a hot spell doesn't cause the "cooling of the air," but that the cooling of the air causes the thunder storm. This almost destroys the feeling of comfort that sets in with the change of temperature.

"Lieut. Commander Roscoe C. Bulmer is hereby ordered to proceed to the nearest military sailing establishment and have himself measured for a complete outfit of admiral's uniforms."—Extract from prospective naval orders.

Judge Landis will miss an opportunity if he doesn't compel Mr. Rockefeller to appear personally in court. People have rather tired of never seeing the distinguished churchman except at divine services.

The Pennsylvania Democrats have declined to endorse Bryan, which seems to justify the suspicion that the State may even go so far as to refuse him its electoral vote.

For substantially similar reasons, Russia favors and Japan opposes the proposition at The Hague to stop the use of submarine mines.

M. Juserand refers to the President as "the greatest man of the Western Hemisphere—head and shoulders above every one else." The entente cordiale would not last long if that sort of qualifications were to be adopted as a regular thing.

Now as to those cocktails that seem to be getting the Vice President into trouble, it may as well be understood that if they were the hand-me-down sort that come in quart bottles, he can expect little sympathy.

There's a row going on in New York because the authorities propose to rip up Broadway. New York ought to come down and look at the national avenue.

### THE BOOK-WORMS.

Ho, thou through the dim folds fondly mining,  
We near the end,  
A moment in thy sleeping and thy drowsing,  
Arrest thee, friend!

Only a little way art thou behind me,  
But in my place  
The worm has grown so thin that now  
I find me  
Close upon space.

Is it some larger leaf than we have burrowed,  
And in tint and pale  
And in color of the title-page we turned  
With sinuous trail?

Is it the answer to some wild of dreaming  
Before me there?  
Some airy lift, some hint of boundless gleaming,  
Which way I fare?

Life! And, beyond, outlook of glorious weather—  
Wide wanderings!  
Hid, waiting, beth thee in thy fragrant leather!  
I feel my wings!  
—Prescott Spofford, in the July Atlantic.

## Wife of Bricklayer En Route to London To Meet High Society

Mrs. James Donnelly, Mother of Florodora  
Girl Who Is Wedded to Lord Ashburton, Going Abroad.

NEW YORK, June 27.—The wife of a New York bricklayer to be received by the cream of British society.

"Dear me," gasps the astonished public.

"What of it?" coolly interrogates the woman herself.

She is Mrs. James Donnelly, mother of the former stage beauty and "Florodora" girl, Frances Belmont, who now bears the proud title of Baroness Ashburton.

It is through this daughter, whose charm and beauty as Lord Ashburton's wife have won for her the favor of the most select circles in England, that Mrs. Donnelly is to be presented to society abroad.

A modest, simple woman, accustomed only to small social pleasures and to the care of her home and family, Mrs. Donnelly will be transplanted to an entirely new world—a world of fashion and gaiety and brilliancy such as she in her unpretentious life has never dreamed of entering.

### Cottage to Castles.

From a modest, pretty little cottage in White Plains to the splendid castles and villas and town houses over which her daughter presides—surely this will afford a metamorphosis swift and magical enough to take away the breath of many a woman more handsomely situated in life than Mrs. Donnelly.

Yet the prospect does not disturb her in the least. Indeed, she looks forward to the great event of her career with an equanimity which would do honor to one born and bred to the life.

Indeed, she regards with perfect coolness and poise the wonderful change that has come over her entire affairs since her daughter's marriage, and calmly asks: "What of it?"

"What of it?" This is just what the youngest Donnelly daughter said when she greeted a newspaper representative at the family cottage in White Plains.

### Mother Goes Abroad.

"Why, yes, of course mother is going abroad with Lady Ashburton—my sister. Why shouldn't she go?"

This youngest daughter is a pretty girl, with even white teeth, rosy cheeks and spirited blue eyes. In her working waist and print skirt, she presided over the interview, a self-appointed spokesman for the family.

"But surely Mrs. Donnelly has plans for her voyage. Will she discuss them?"

"Of course she has plans—but they would not interest anyone. Dear me, why should people be so interested in what our family does? What concern should it be to anyone? And mother is very busy at the present time, too."

In the background could be seen the verification of the statement. Open trunks, with clothing piled about them, showed that preparations for departure were in full swing.

"No, I can't tell you just when Mrs. Donnelly is going. Some time next week, I think. She will go whenever my sister goes. Yes, I have visited Lady Ashburton in England, and just returned with my sister. We made quite a lengthy visit and had an enjoyable time."

### Spaniel Is Inquisitive.

A Japanese spaniel, tumbling forward amid the trunks and clothing and other preparations, thrust an inquisitive nose at the caller.

"Come back! Come back, sir!" commanded a muffled voice in the rear of the hall. It was the voice of Mrs. Donnelly herself, who was striving to keep out of the range of vision of the inquisitive spaniel.

The spaniel turned and waved a warning hand. But it was too late for already the mother had given a glimpse of her face and figure.

She was clad in a light dressing gown, open at the throat, and drowsing in the arms of the spaniel.

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loose comfortable lines about her ample figure.

Her dark hair, streaked with gray, was combed yet not untidily, brushed back from her forehead and coiled in a knot at the top.

### Warm and Worried.

She looked warm and worried. Evidently the curiosity of the public disturbed her far more than the preparations for her trip abroad.

Her face is a full, motherly, comfortable face, with generous features and kindly eyes—eyes that hold a sort of contempt for public opinion and public interest in her affairs. They are eyes that look calmly out upon her changed fortunes and show no undue agitation.

Altogether, she is a lovable, motherly-looking person, with a cool confidence in herself and in her family that nothing can disturb.

"If people would only let us alone," sighed the youngest Donnelly girl. She was undying in her determination to keep her mother and sister out of the background.

A figure in a white kimono roved about restlessly in the parlor.

"Is that your sister Blanche?"

"The unyielding one smiled."

"What of it?" "Why should any one care to know?"

"Lady Ashburton?"

### All Going Away.

"Is out of town—yes—that is the truth. She is visiting us, but she is not here just now. She went away. We are all going away."

"No, no," came in agitated tones from the rear. Another voice—Mrs. Donnelly's own—took up the refrain.

"No, no, indeed!"

The atmosphere was charged with agitated refusal.

"But you really are going to sail?" Mrs. Donnelly is going abroad—you admit that?"

"Why certainly! Mrs. Donnelly is going and she is to be the guest of Lady Ashburton."

James Donnelly, the father, is described as a stocky, ruddy-faced man, with gray hair and mustache, a man of reserve and simple habits, who refuses to discuss with anyone the marriage of his daughter.

The atmosphere that have been heaped upon her.

It is believed by many friends of both Mr. Duke and Mrs. Inman that they will inaugurate a social campaign on their return to New York from the honeymoon tour. Color is given to this by the fact that Mr. Duke has been looking over several famous Fifth avenue residences, and will probably buy one of them for his bride.

One of these is the Whitney residence, now known as the James Henry Smith house, as it was purchased by the late multimillionaire for his bride for the sum of \$1,000,000.

The house has been for sale, and the two most probable buyers have been said to be James B. Duke and E. H. Harriman. Mr. Duke is said to be especially partial to the house, because he is familiar with it, having been a frequent guest of the late W. C. Whitney.

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## Tobacco King To Wed Beauty From Atlanta

Mrs. William Inman Will  
Be His Bride Last  
Week in July.

Marriage to Take Place  
in Europe; Then Social  
Campaign in Gotham.

NEW YORK, June 28.—James B. Duke, the tobacco king, will be married the last week in July to Mrs. William Inman, the beautiful society woman of Atlanta, to whom he has been attentive for the past few months.

The wedding will take place in Europe. The head of the Tobacco trust and his prospective bride will sail for the other side with a party on the morning of July 15. In the party will be Mrs. Holt, of Macon, mother of Mrs. Inman; Walter Inman, the twelve-year-old son of the fascinating widow; his boy chum from Atlanta, St. Julian Ravennell; Mrs. Thompson, a lifelong friend of the Duke family; Brodie L. Duke and his daughter, who is convalescing from appendicitis.

### Destination a Secret.

The ceremony will take place as soon as the party reaches the European port, the name of which, for reasons best known to himself, Mr. Duke is keeping a secret. The entire party and two or three other friends of the bride and prospective husband whom they expect to meet on the other side will start for a continental automobile tour in four machines.

Two of these, a large Mercedes touring car and a Fiat limousine, the largest made, which is a recent present from Mr. Duke to Mrs. Inman, and which is said to have cost almost \$20,000, will be taken from this country. Two others, purchased in either France or Germany, to accommodate the entire party.

### To Buy Fifth Avenue House.

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